

Business Continuity

*-Limiting The Impact of
Pandemic Influenza-*

Presented by

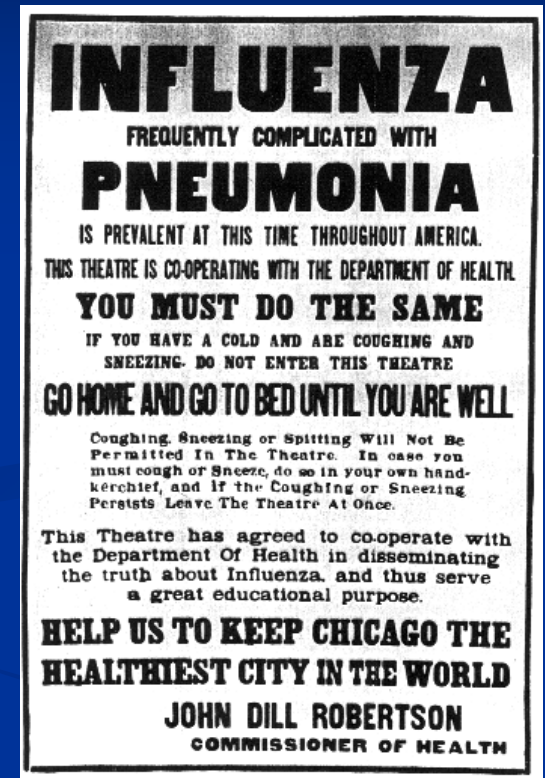
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Where are we today?

- Substantial but isolated planning has occurred
- Surge Capacity – has occurred on a prioritized basis
- Animal Health Planning has been sporadic
- Government Agencies - all hazards COOP/COG planning



Pandemic influenza is a human and animal health issue.



Typical COOP vs. Pandemic Flu

- Pandemic planning differs from traditional disaster planning.
- A pandemic event could occur over a period of weeks, appear to be under control, and then resume.

“Most of the COOP or disaster planning is based on the assumption that it will be an acute event, it’s not based on the idea of chronic event.” Barry Chaikin

Barry Chaikin, associate chief medical officer of BearingPoint LLC of McLean, Va., and a public health physician.



Entire Community



Current Challenges

- Coordinating functions between the public and private sectors
- Functional capability to monitor and control animal hosts
- Staffing – shortages of qualified health care personnel exist
- Most organizations (public and private) are not prepared to operate with 20% less staff



Potential Impact

- Communications systems “overloaded”
- Personnel may be unavailable for long periods due to illness and avoiding public contact
- Public venues and certain businesses could be closed by public health authorities
- Litigation may result from claims stemming from quality of air, evacuation procedures, information sharing, etc.
- Movement of goods and personnel may be limited

“Business has to find its national voice. It has to be engaged in the politics of this country in a way it has not been accustomed to...” Malcolm Gladwell, The New Yorker



Steps to Effective Planning

- Comprehensive syndromic surveillance
- Coordination between animal and public health planning initiatives
- Systemic well-defined partnerships between the private and public sectors
- Defined mission critical processes and elements that support those processes

“Plans are nothing; planning is everything.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower



Steps to Effective Planning

“There has been a lot of mention of [medicines like] Tamiflu and vaccines, but not a lot of mention of telecommuting and backup processes to make sure people are available.”

Barry Chaikin, associate chief medical officer of BearingPoint LLC of McLean, Va., and a public health physician.



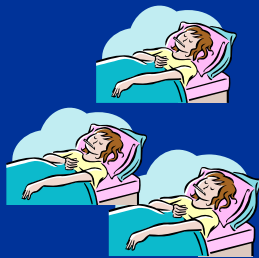
Why focus on the Private Sector?

- Government can't do it all...agencies need support:
 - Functional Coordination
 - Manage Human Resources
 - Inventory Hard Assets
- Businesses – Effective planning, preparedness, response, and recovery is a competitive advantage at grassroots and global levels.



Conclusions

- Pandemic events start locally - local community needs to be prepared to control or end the event at their local level.
- Formalize Planning
 - Advanced Response Planning
 - COOP, COG, BIA
 - Recovery Planning



Conclusions

- Partnering – Private/Public Sector
 - Leverage expertise
 - Clear delineation of roles
- Link animal and human health initiatives in both the private and public sectors
- Focus Group Participation

A central part of planning is making sure agencies ... identify essential employees, those who can work at home, and those who do not need to work [during the emergency].”

Michael Chertoff, Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security



Thank you!

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